



Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

Price County



County characteristics

- Known as the "Ruffed Grouse Capital of the World".
- 1,268 sq. mi.; Wisconsin's highest point, Timm's Hill at 1952 feet above mean sea level.
- North central hardwood forests dominated by maple-basswood and aspen-birch communities with scattered agriculture in the south.
- Waters: 1,052 miles of perennial streams; 244 miles of trout streams; 311 lakes (9,500 acres); 78 reservoirs (5,100 acres)
- 92,000 acres of County Forest and 147,000 acres of Federal Forests.
- There are 15,822 residents living in Price County.



State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing

- 25,000 acres of State Wildlife Management Areas; 28,500 acres of State Forests.

Locate DNR properties at:

http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_land_mapping.html

Fish and Wildlife Staff serving you

- 1 Wildlife Biologist; 1 Fisheries Biologist; 1 Fisheries Technician; 2 field Conservation Wardens and 1 area Warden Supervisor; 1.6 Customer Service Representatives.
- Office, 875 4th Ave. South, Park Falls, 54552
- Staff also serves portions of Iron, Ashland, Rusk, Taylor, and Sawyer Counties.

Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars

- Monitor local wildlife populations of ruffed grouse, woodcock, turkeys, deer, bear, otters, beaver, frogs, eagles, osprey, trumpeter swans, wolves and sharp-tailed grouse.
- Management of Kimberly Clark, Hoffman Lake/Hay Creek and Spring Creek wildlife areas to promote wildlife habitat.
- Set quotas for deer, bear, turkey, otter, fisher and bobcats.
- Respond to wildlife damage and nuisance complaints and monitor wildlife diseases including CWD and West Nile Virus.
- Developed the Fishery Management Plan-Butternut Lake, Price County WI. Plans for Pike and Solberg lakes and the Phillips chain of lakes will be drafted in 2005.
- Boat ramps, boarding docks and parking areas at Musser, Riley, Wilson and Elk Lakes, and the North Fork Flambeau River at Agenda Landing and Second Slough.
- Conducted surveys to evaluate density, growth rate, recruitment and harvest of walleye population in Butternut, Soo, and Solberg Lakes.



Activities continued...

- Conservation law enforcement patrol and investigation of complaints involving fish and game violations.
- Warden participation in hunter and trapper education courses in area communities.

Price County Conservation Snapshots

Excellent boat access to lakes and rivers
Boat Landings
18 ALIS Agents supported
8 Deer, turkey & bear registration stations



Fish Stocking Summary

- 2,525 brook trout; 2,293 brown trout; 6,321 bass; 2,714 muskellunge; 225 rainbow trout and 150,288 walleye stocked in area lakes and streams.

Price County Success Stories

- Long-standing partnership between Wildlife staff, Price County Forestry and Whitetails Unlimited to fund and implement a wildlife openings program on state and county lands.
- A strong base of grassroots support and cooperation from lake and river associations, sportsman's clubs, and other citizen conservation groups has leveraged the Department's efforts to protect natural scenic beauty, water quality, fishery resources and aquatic habitat in Price County for many years.
- Sportsman's clubs and schools offering recreational safety classes.
- Walleye Watch Program at Schnur's Creek
- Cooperation with sportsman's clubs to maintain a public shooting range at Hoffman Creek/Hay Lake Wildlife Area.
- Participation with local groups and volunteers for youth learn to hunt and fish programs.
- Wildlife staff provides input on county forest plans and helps develop wildlife projects on the Price County Forest.

Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
 - Fish and wildlife stocking programs: Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management

Want to Learn More? Go to dnr.wi.gov/invest

March 2005